

Section 6.—Canada and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

In the words of its constitution, the purpose of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law, for human rights and fundamental freedoms".

Total membership in the Organization at the beginning of 1957 numbered 79 states. The structure of the Organization includes three principal organs: (a) the General Conference; (b) the Executive Board; and (c) the Secretariat. The General Conference is the policy-making body of the Organization. It meets every two years and its main functions are to consider applications for membership, elect the Executive Board, plan the program and approve the budget for the ensuing two-year period.

At the General Conference held in New Delhi, India, from Nov. 5 to Dec. 5, 1956, decision was reached to launch three major projects: the extension of primary education in Latin America; scientific research on arid lands; and mutual appreciation of the cultural values of the Occident and the Orient. The Conference approved a total budget of \$22,679,000 for the years 1957 and 1958 to be applied to common services and administrative expenses as well as to UNESCO's seven program areas—education, natural sciences, social sciences, cultural activities, mass communications, technical assistance and exchange of persons. Canada's share in this budget is \$685,485 or about 3 p.c. of the assessment level.

Both governmental and non-governmental organizations in Canada are interested in, and contribute to, UNESCO program activities. During the period under review, Canadians either as individuals or as organizations attended a number of UNESCO-sponsored meetings and seminars, contributed information to a variety of UNESCO publications and participated in UNESCO technical assistance missions and projects. Several UNESCO travelling art exhibitions toured Canada; International Museums Week was observed by museums and galleries across the country, and training programs were organized for Fellows from under-developed countries.

In the absence of a National Commission for UNESCO, the Department of External Affairs has carried out the essential liaison functions between the various official and voluntary agencies concerned with the Organization's program. However, pursuant to Sect. 8 of the Act passed at the Fifth Session of the Twenty-second Parliament for the establishment of a Canada Council for the Encouragement of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Governor in Council assigned to the Canada Council certain functions in relation to UNESCO and the Canada Council, on Aug. 21, 1957, announced the establishment of a National Commission for UNESCO.

PART III.—SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

Section 1.—The National Research Council*

Forty years of scientific research on a national basis have made it possible for Canada to keep pace with the exploitation of its own vast resources as well as with the accelerated economic development noticeable in all parts of the world.

History and Organization.—Organized research in Canada on a national basis dates from 1916 when the Government of Canada established the Honorary Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research under a Committee of the Privy Council. Provision was made for the planning and integration of research work, organization of co-operative investigations, postgraduate training of research workers, and prosecution of research through grants-in-aid to university professors. This was the basis of the Council's work from 1916 to 1924.

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